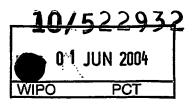


Rec'd PCT/PTO 2 5 JAN 2005

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

(Rationalised Report according to the Notice of the President of the EPO published in the OJ11/2001)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification	n of Transmittal of Internation Report (Form	national
C1377.01/M				
International application No.	International filing date (day)	month/year)	Priority date (day month	ı/year)
PCT/GB03/03726	29/08/2003		30/08/2002	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or	national classification and IPC			
	G01N33/50			
Applicant .				
MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL	et al.		·	
This international preliminary exam Authority and is transmitted to the	applicant according to Article.	30.		ning
2. This REPORT consists of a total of sheets, including this cover sheet.				
been smended and are the ha	ied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets sis for this report and/or sheets io7 of the Administrative Instru	containing rectif	cations made defore this.	which have Authority
These annexes consists of a total o	f sheets.			
3. This report contains indications rel	lating to the following items:			
I X Basis of the report				
II Priority				
III X Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability				
IV Lack of unity of invent	ion	•		
V X Reasoned statement un citations and explanation	nder Article 35(2) with regard to ons supporting such statement	novelty, inventi	e step or industrial applic	ability;
VI Certain documents cited				
VII Certain defects in the international application				
VIII Certain observations on the international application				
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		te of completion	of this report	
Date of submission of the demand	. Da			
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Name and mailing address of the IPEA/		thorized officer		
European Patent Office	WE	AVER M R	avets	<u>o</u>))
D-80298 Munich Tel. (+49-89) 2399-0, Tx: 523	656 epmu d	1. (+49-89) 2399	2828	ر تروی
Fax: (+49-89) 2399-4465 Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) P20476				Oure entope

I. Basis of the report

The basis of this international preliminary examination is the application as originally filed.

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The question of whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step, or to be industrially applicable has not been the subject of the international preliminary examination in respect of the claims which have not been searched (Article 17(2)(a) or (3) and Rule 66.1(e) PCT); see also international search report).

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

To the extent that the international preliminary examination has been carried out (see item III above), the following is pointed out:

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in at least some of the claims, which have been the subject of an international search report, does not appear to meet the criteria mentioned in Article 33(1) PCT, i.e. does not appear to be novel and/or to involve an inventive step (see international search report, in particular the documents cited X and/or Y and corresponding claim references).